



Med-Alert

The 5th Brigade (HS) Newsletter

May 2001
Volume 15



THE COLONEL'S CORNER

A FOND FAREWELL TO LTC KOENIG

This month we officially say farewell to LTC Koenig and his wife, they are retiring from the military after 30 years of dedicated service.

Thank you for all you have done for the 5th Brigade (HS) and the US Army Reserve. We wish you the best of luck in the future.

FROM THE S-1

- We wish to welcome the following personnel to the 5th Brigade (HS):

CSM Alfred C. Habelman
SPC Estevan Medina (75H)
SGT Adrian Sledge (92Y)

- We bid farewell to the following personnel:

Major DelPrete who is relocating to Boston after completing her studies at the University of Texas in Austin.

MAJ Keith Lawson who is going to the 5501st General Hospital.

SGT Jesus Casiano who is going into the IRR.

- Please congratulate SGT Casandra Thompson on her reenlistment on 22 Apr 01 for 4 years and also CSM Alfred C. Habelman for reenlisting for 6 years on 28 Apr 01.
- The S-1 will be providing ID's for Dependents on Saturday 19 May 01 at 1400 -1530 in room 204.

TID BITS

From the Brigade Supervisory Staff Administrator (SSA), Mr. Carofilis:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

- National Registry Emergency Medical Technician / B - On 12 May 2001 the 5th Brigade and all its subordinate units will start a NR EMT/B course in preparation for 91W transition. The course is a total brigade effort with 10th BN and Brigade HQ's performing planning and course development. The PND will provide instructors, 3457th MTC will assist with BLS prep. The course will be conducted at Fort Sam Houston and will last 21 days; our primary student target were brigade soldiers who needed transition, we also offered a few seats to San Antonio units that provided assistance in some form or another. Our thanks in advance to MSG Breshears for being the driving force in the planning of this course.

- 91B BNCOC Technical Training Phase - The 10th BN will conduct the Technical Training Phase of 91B BNCOC from 25 May to 2 June here at Fort Sam Houston, a lot of effort has been put forth to ensure that this course comes to fruition. The BN has 28 students enrolled in ATRRS. There will be a total of 7 BN personnel assigned to this course. This year the BN and this course will undergo accreditation. Let's wish them good luck.

- Fishing trip to Port Aransas - During my pharmaceutical workdays I used to organize a yearly fishing trip to Port Aransas. The last time I put together a trip we went fishing in late July early August. We chartered a 40 - 50 feet deep sea fishing boat and had such great luck that we maxed out on kings, got a couple of black tip sharks (one weighed in at 150 lbs), caught lings (40 lbs), a couple of dorados, bottom line is we brought in a total of 450 lbs of fish. The boat holds 8 fishermen and crew, they leave at about 0600 following the shrimp boats and return at 1500. The cost is about \$900 to charter the boat, plus crew tip, and if you want the fish cleaned that will cost additional per pound of fish. If you are interested, drop me a line (no pun





intended) and I will get more definitive pricing. This is not an official trip or in any way sanctioned by this unit.

- Soldier Medic Run - An event that has become a tradition among the Army Medical Department is the Soldier Medic Run. This year the date is 28 July and the distance is 10K. Soldiers from all over the world come to Fort Sam to participate in this event. We would like to put together a 5th Brigade (HS) team to run as a unit. We won't go after the speed record but we do want to finish together, if you are interested in participating send me your name so we can start forming our team.

COMMAND INSPECTION PROGRAM

The Brigade HQs will undergo a Command Inspection by Division during this drill weekend 19 - 20 May. Staff sections make sure that you review all your programs. The best way to do a final look is to go over the inspection checklists that have been provided by Division. If you need additional copies of this checklist contact me.

90-DAY EVENT CALENDAR

11 May EMT Course Start
 19 - 20 May Brigade HQ Drill
 19 - 20 May Brigade undergoes CIP by Division
 19 - 20 May LTC Koenig Retirement Ceremony
 19 - 20 May Hash Run
 25 May 91B BNCOC Technical Phase Starts
 1 June 91C SA Site AT
 1 June 91E10 Course Starts
 1 June 91D10 Course Starts
 1 June 91J BNCOC Ph IV Starts
 1 - 3 June Combat Lifesaver course, Lafayette LA
 7 June 91C Nebraska Site AT
 8 - 10 June CLC Grand Prairie, TX
 8 - 10 June CLC Oklahoma City
 9 - 10 June All Brigade Units Drill
 13 June Start PHTLS Course
 16 June Start 91K BNCOC Ph IV course
 17 June Start 91M BNCOC Ph IV course
 4 July Start 91B10 AT
 19 July Start 91 CMF BNCOC/ANCOC
 21 - 22 July Brigade HQs Drill

LOSE YOUR PURSE OR WALLET? - WHAT TO DO

We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed using your name, address, SS#, credit, etc. Unfortunately I (author of this piece) have first hand knowledge, because my wallet was stolen last month



and within a week the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information online, and more. But here's

some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know. As everyone always advises, cancel your credit cards immediately, but the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them easily (having to hunt for them is additional stress you WON'T need at that point)! On a personal note, I remember losing a MC and until I got the toll free number from information, etc. I was a wreck. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one). But here's what is perhaps most important: I never ever thought to do this. Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and SS#. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. By the time I was advised to do this - almost 2 weeks after the theft all the damage had been done (there are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert). Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks. The numbers are:

- Equifax 1-800 525-6285
- Experian (formerly TRW) 1-800-301-7195
- Trans Union 1-800-680-7289



- Social Security Administration also has a fraud line at 1-800-269-0271

YOUR CHAIN OF COMMAND

5th Brigade (HS)

COL Angel Padilla CSM Alfred Habelman

10th BN

MAJ James Hickey CSM Paul Castro

3457th

LTC Floyd Priester CSM Vacant

PND

MAJ Mary Gomez CSM David Stading

HHD – 5th Brigade

CPT Mario Avila SFC Dan Carlin